least as they relate to mandatory collisions. In the Final office action of August 23, 2006 at pages 10-11, the office elected not to apply prior art to the recited limitation of "if the change to the second data structure creates a mandatory collision, preventing the change from occurring." The office justified the decision on the basis that the recited limitation was derived from a mandatory collision, and that the claim language allowed for the option to determine *either* a mandatory 'or' discretionary collision. Consequently, the office elected *not* to choose mandatory collision, and thus, the office did not address the recited limitation. Applicants submit that in view of the proposed amendments made herein to (to the independent claims, i.e., claim 7), the claim language now necessitates application of prior art with respect to *both* mandatory and discretionary collisions, and all of their accompanying limitations. Moreover, Applicants submit that the combination of Holenstein and Neeman, even if proper, fails to teach or suggest mandatory collisions, at a minimum.

3) Discuss other features, as necessary.

PROPOSED CLAIM AMENDMENTS

7 (currently amended): A method of reconciling a first data structure stored on a computer readable medium with a second data structure stored on a computer readable medium, comprising:

establishing a connection between the second data structure and the first data structure;

determining which node of the second data structure has received a change from a corresponding node in the first data structure;

for each node in the second data structure determined to have received a change from a corresponding node in the first data structure,

attempting to access the corresponding node in the first data structure;

if the corresponding node in the first data structure is inaccessible, preventing the change from occurring in the second data structure,

if the corresponding node in the first data structure is accessible, determining, if the change to the second data structure creates a mandatory collision ~~or a discretionary collision~~,

if the change to the second data structure creates a mandatory collision, preventing the change from occurring,

if the corresponding node in the first data structure is accessible, determining, if the change to the second data structure creates a discretionary collision,

if the change to the second data structure creates a discretionary collision,

determining if the discretionary collision is forbidden by collision criteria, if the discretionary collision is not forbidden by the collision criteria, making the change to the corresponding node in the first data structure, and

if the discretionary collision is forbidden by the collision criteria, preventing the change from occurring.

19 (currently amended): One or more computer readable media having computer-executable instructions stored thereon, for performing a method of reconciling a first data structure stored on a computer readable medium with a second data structure stored on a computer readable medium, comprising:

establishing a connection between the second data structure and the first data structure;

determining which node of the second data structure has received a change from a corresponding node in the first data structure;

for each node in the second data structure determined to have received a change from a corresponding node in the first data structure,

attempting to access the corresponding node in the first data structure;

if the corresponding node in the first data structure is inaccessible, preventing the change from occurring in the second data structure,

if the corresponding node in the first data structure is accessible, determining, if the change to the second data structure creates a mandatory collision ~~or a discretionary collision~~,

if the change to the second data structure creates a mandatory collision, preventing the change from occurring,

if the corresponding node in the first data structure is accessible, determining, if the change to the second data structure creates a discretionary collision,

if the change to the second data structure creates a discretionary collision,

determining if the discretionary collision is forbidden by collision criteria, if the discretionary collision is not forbidden by the collision criteria, making the change to the corresponding node in the first data structure, and

if the discretionary collision is forbidden by the collision criteria, preventing the change from occurring.

25 (currently amended): A system comprising:

a first memory for storing a first data structure;

a second memory for storing a second data structure;

a processor for executing instructions stored on one or more computer readable media for performing a method of reconciling the first data structure stored in the first memory with a second data structure stored in the second memory, the method including:

establishing a communication connection between the first data structure and the second data structure;

determining which node of the second data structure has received a change from a corresponding node in the first data structure;

for each node in the second data structure determined to have received a change from a corresponding node in the first data structure,

attempting to access the corresponding node in the first data structure;

if the corresponding node in the first data structure is inaccessible, preventing the change from occurring in the second data structure,

if the corresponding node in the first data structure is accessible, determining, if the change to the second data structure creates a mandatory collision ~~or a discretionary collision~~,

if the change to the second data structure creates a mandatory collision, preventing the change from occurring,

if the corresponding node in the second data structure is accessible, determining, if the change to the second data structure creates a discretionary collision,

if the change to the second data structure creates a discretionary collision,

determining if the discretionary collision is forbidden by collision criteria, if the discretionary collision is not forbidden by the collision criteria, making the change to the corresponding node in the first data structure, and

if the discretionary collision is forbidden by the collision criteria, preventing the change from occurring.